

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 05692 141620Z  
ACTION PPTE-00

INFO OCT-01 CA-01 ISO-00 H-02 /004 W  
-----014802 141625Z /72/14  
P 121147Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0858

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 5692

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: CPAS, CASC, CGEN (DUGGAL, AJIT SINGH, PREMJI AND INDERJIT)  
SUBJECT: ASSISTANCE TO USCIT RE CHILD CUSTODY

REF: NEW DELHI 5578, STATE 082914

1. AJIT SINGH, PREMJI AND INDERJIT DUGGAL, AGE 11, 14 AND 15 RESPECTIVELY, ARE SONS OF USCIT MRS. JENNIE DUGGAL AND HAVE RESIDED IN INDIA WITH THEIR INDIAN NATIONAL FATHER BRIJINDER SINGH DUGGAL SINCE THE PARENTS' DIVORCE IN 1971. DUGGAL CHILDREN VISITED THEIR MOTHER TWICE, MOST RECENTLY IN ALASKA IN SUMMER OF 1977 AND ACCORDING TO MRS. DUGGAL THEY PLANNED TO STAY WITH HER AT LEAST A YEAR. HER FORMER HUSBAND HOWEVER UNEXPECTEDLY ALSO VISITED JUNEAU, STATED HE WOULD TAKE BOYS ON A VACATION CRUISE AND IN FACT BROUGHT THEM BACK TO INDIA WITHOUT HER KNOWLEDGE. IN ORDER FACILITATE RETURN OF BOYS TO INDIA MR. DUGGAL APPARENTLY MISINFORMED THIS EMBASSY THAT BOYS' US PASSPORTS HAD BEEN LOST AND OBTAINED REPLACEMENT PASSPORTS FOR THEM BEFORE HE LEFT FOR THE US.

2. AN ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE DATED FEBRUARY 3, 1978, WAS SUBSEQUENTLY FORWARDED TO MRS. DUGGAL IN FURTHER LEGAL PROCEEDINGS IN INDIA APPARENTLY REGARDING THE BOYS' CUSTODY. SHE WAS ASKED TO APPEAR IN AN INDIAN COURT ON APRIL 5, 1978. MRS. DUGGAL SAYS SHE WAS UNABLE TO APPEAR PERSONALLY AND ATTEMPTED OBTAIN LEGAL COUNSEL  
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BUT WAS UNSUCCESSFUL.

3. POST RECEIVED ON APRIL 11 AN URGENT LETTER DATED MARCH 30 FROM SENATOR STEVENS OFFICE REQUESTING EMBASSY PRESENT CERTAIN MATERIAL TO THE INDIAN COURT. A LETTER FROM MRS. DUGGAL'S USCIT FIANCE CHRISTOPHER NOAH INCLUDED IN CORRESPONDENCE FORWARDED BY SENATOR STEVENS STATED IN PART "WE FEEL IT IS NOT TOO MUCH

TO ASK THE STATE DEPARTMENT AS REPRESENTATIVE OF OUR COUNTRY  
TO DELIVER THE PAPERS TO THE COURT".

4. CONSOFF ATTEMPTING CONTACT MR. DUGGAL TO DETERMINE PRESENT  
STATUS OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS REFERRED TO BY MRS. DUGGAL (FOR  
WHICH DATE OF HEARING HAD PASSED BEFORE REQUEST WE BE INVOLVED  
WAS RECEIVED.) WE ARE MOST WILLING TO BE OF WHATEVER SERVICE  
POSSIBLE TO MRS. DUGGAL AND HER AMERICAN CHILDREN. MR. DUGGAL  
HAS ASSUED US WE MAY VISIT CHILDREN AS WOON AS SUITABLE TIME  
CAN BE ARRANGED. WE WOULD BE GLAD TO TRANSMIT MAIL TO AND FROM  
CHILDREN AND THEIR MOTHER, AS WELL AS DOCUMENTS TO COURT  
THROUGH THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS IF DEPARTMENT CONSIDERS  
THIS APPROPRIATE. WE OF COURSE CANNOT DETERMINE HOW RAPIDLY  
MEA COULD TRANSMIT PAPERS NOR CAN WE OTHERWISE SERVE AS SURROGATE  
LEGAL REPRESENTATIVES. PLEASE ADVISE ASAP.  
ZA5. SENATORS STEVENS AND GRAVEL INTERESTED.  
GOHEEN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1978NEWDE05692  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ASSISTANCE TO USCIT RE CHILD CUSTODY  
**TAGS:** CPAS, CASC, CGEN, (DUGGAL, AJIT SINGH)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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